# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

## BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN

## MONTANA

*as of*

JUNE 1, 1968

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Data included in this report were obtained in cooperation with other Federal, State and private organizations

Streamflow in the Bitterroot drainage is expected to remain a little above average for the remainder of the irrigation season, providing precipitation is near average. The mountain snow pack is melting but is later, and is presently about average. Total runoff for May was 79 percent average, which is the result of below average temperatures during the month.

STREAMFLOW (APRIL THROUGH SEPTEMBER)

| STREAM GAGING STA. | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1948-62 Average | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| STATION 3440 BITTERROOT RIVER NEAR DARBY | 765 | 605 | 630 | 663 | 608 | 557 | 523 | 540 | 740 | 515 | 531 | 593 | 521 | 398 | 545 | 582 | 534 | 783 | 740 | |
| STATION NO. 3475 BLODGETT CREEK NEAR CORVALLIS | 51.3 | 45 | 51 | 46 | 42 | 40 | 52 | 45 | 51 | 42 | 42 | 47 | 36 | 39 | 41 | 45 | 35 | 48 | 55 | |

Report prepared by

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
SNOW SURVEY AND WATER SUPPLY FORECASTING UNIT
BOX 98, BOZEMAN, MONTANA 59715

*"The Conservation of Water begins with the Snow Survey"*

# BITTERROOT RIVER BASIN

MT-5b

# SNOW SURVEY DATA

WATERSHED 5

## AS OF MAY 15, 1968

(Inches)

| SNOW COURSE | | | CURRENT DATA | | | PAST RECORD | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | WATER CONTENT | |
| NO. | NAME | ELEVATION | DATE OF SURVEY | SNOW DEPTH | WATER CONTENT | LAST YEAR | AVERAGE |
| 13D02 | Gibbons Pass | 7100 | 5/14 | 35 | 15.6 | 28.8 | 20.1* |
| 14C07 | Lost Horse | 5940 | 5/14 | 57 | 25.8 | 36.3 | - |
| 13D22 | Saddle Mountain | 7940 | 5/14 | 60 | 27.0 | 36.6 | - |
| 13C03 | Skalkaho Summit | 7260 | 5/14 | 54 | 23.4 | 33.1 | - |
| 14C13 | Twelvemile Creek | 5600 | 5/14 | 2 | 1.1 | - | - |
| 14C08 | Twin Lakes | 6510 | 5/14 | 87 | 40.0 | 49.3 | - |

## JUNE 1, 1968

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13D02 | Gibbons Pass | 7100 | 5/31 | 14 | 6.4 | 15.4 | 6.7* |
| 14C07 | Lost Horse | 5940 | 5/30 | 37 | 18.2 | 26.6 | - |
| 13D22 | Saddle Mountain | 7940 | 5/31 | 43 | 20.6 | 25.7 | - |
| 13C03 | Skalkaho Summit | 7260 | 5/28 | 39 | 18.8 | 24.3 | 14.1* |
| 14C13 | Twelvemile Creek | 5600 | 5/30 | 0 | 0.0 | - | - |
| 14C08 | Twin Lakes | 6510 | 5/30 | 64 | 32.4 | 39.0 | - |

# SOIL MOISTURE DATA

## AS OF JUNE 1, 1968

(Inches)

| SOIL MOISTURE STATION | | | SOIL PROFILE | | CURRENT DATA | | PAST RECORD | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NO. | NAME | ELEVATION | DEPTH | FIELD CAPACITY | DATE OF SURVEY | SOIL MOISTURE | LAST YEAR | **AVERAGE |
| 13D18M | Gibbons Pass | 7100 | 48 | 7.1 | 5/31 | 7.2 | 6.8 | 7.0 |
| 14C05M | Lolo Pass | 5250 | 48 | 10.6 | 5/29 | 10.0 | 9.6 | 9.9 |
| 13C03M | Skalkaho Summit | 7260 | 48 | 10.8 | 5/28 | 10.0 | 10.2 | - |

NOTE: ALL AVERAGES BASED ON 1948-1962 (15 YEAR PERIOD). *ADJUSTED AVERAGE **AVERAGE FOR PERIOD OF RECORD

# WATER SUPPLY FORECASTS

WATERSHED 5

AS OF JUNE 1, 1968

(1000 Acre Feet)

| NO. | RIVER AND FORECAST POINT | FORECAST PERIOD | FORECAST THIS YEAR | PERCENT AVERAGE | MEASURED FLOW LAST YEAR* | MEASURED FLOW AVERAGE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | BITTERROOT RIVER | | | | | |
| 3440 | Darby (near) | June-Sept | 322 | 105 | 374 | 307 |

*PROVISIONAL DATA FURNISHED BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

# RESERVOIR STORAGE DATA

AS OF MAY 31, 1968

(1000 Acre Feet)

| NO. | RESERVOIR | USABLE CAPACITY | THIS YEAR | LAST YEAR | AVERAGE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3420 | Painted Rocks | 31.7 | 33.0 | 33.4 | 32.4 |
| 3445 | Como | 34.9 | 24.7 | 24.2 | 29.0 |

NOTE: ALL AVERAGES BASED ON 1948-1962 (15 YEAR PERIOD).